

Borough of Colne



ANNUAL REPORT

for 1951

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health



*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health.*

*Health Dept.,
Bank House,
Colne, Lancs.*



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BOROUGH OF COLNE.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Alderman W. Riddiough, J.P.,C.C.

Vice-Chairman :

His Worship the Mayor, (Councillor E. Phillips, J.P.).

Alderman A. Burrell, J.P.

„ J. W. Shackleton.

„ H. Snell.

„ G. E. Wilmore, J.P.

Councillor E. V. Doyle.

„ T. A. Fletcher.

„ W. Harrison.

„ W. H. Hirst.

„ J. M. Ogden, T.D.

„ W. D. Pye,

Town Clerk—L. A. Venables, Esq.

Public Analyst—H. Dediccoat, Esq., F.R.I.C.

BOROUGH OF COLNE.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health :

R. E. ROBINSON, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

S. CAYTON, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.Inst.F. (*).

Sanitary Inspector :

A. PEARSON, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E. (†).

Clerical Staff :

Chief Clerk : J. PRESTON.

Junior Clerks : A. WATSON.

J. HARRISON (H.M. Forces).

QUALIFICATIONS.

†* (a) R.S.I. and S.I.E. Joint Board Certificate.

†* (b) R.S.I. Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.

†* (c) Diploma Nat. Fed. Meat Traders' Association.

†* (d) R.S.I. Certificate in Sanitary Science Applied to Buildings and Public Works.

† (e) R.S.I. Certificate for Smoke Inspectors.

* (f) R.S.I. Advanced Knowledge of Sanitary Inspectors Duties.

* (g) City and Guilds of London Institute Boiler House Practice Certificate.

* (h) Testamur Institute of Public Cleansing.

† (i) Examination qualifying for Assoc. Membership, Institute of Sanitary Engineers.

PREFACE.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
BANK HOUSE,
COLNE.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration the Annual Report of the Department for the year 1951.

Although the death rate of 15.3 per 1,000 of the population shows an increase of 1.2 over the year 1950 (14.1) it is gratifying to note that the Maternal Mortality Rate was nil and that the Infant Mortality Rate has decreased from 35 per 1,000 live births in 1950 to 28 in 1951. This figure is 2 less than that of England and Wales as a whole (30) and 6 less than the rate for the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London (34).

The increase in the death rate may be attributed chiefly to (a) Influenza and (b) Tuberculosis. The rate for the former was 0.82 per 1,000 in 1951 as compared with 0.04 for the previous year. This increase was a direct result of the rather severe influenzal epidemic which spread over the North in the first quarter of the year. It accounted for 17 deaths, the great majority of which occurred in the over 60 age group. The number of deaths from Tuberculosis was 10, 7 males and 3 females, compared with 2 deaths, 1 male and 1 female in 1950. Nine of the deaths were due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, giving a rate of 0.44 per 1,000, an increase of 0.39 over 1950. Five of the deaths occurred between the ages of 50 and 70.

At first glance it would seem that the incidence of Tuberculosis in the Borough was on the increase, but that this is not the case can be seen from the fact that the number of notifications was much less in 1951 than in previous years. These figures show us most clearly that Tuberculosis is still a very grave menace to the health of the community, and that no effort should be spared until that menace is completely removed from our midst. Tuberculosis is a Preventable Disease and if the apathetic attitude or feeling of dread towards the disease among the public could be dispelled so that early diagnosis would become easier, I have no doubt that with the modern diagnostic measures now at our disposal we should see the incidence of Tuberculosis falling markedly year by year.

I am grateful to the Committee and my staff for the help given during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. E. ROBINSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

The Borough of Colne is well situated, healthy, and in excellent natural surroundings. It is 600 ft. to 800 ft. above sea level. There is good natural drainage and a plentiful water supply.

The chief industries of the area are Cotton and Silk Weaving, Engineering, Distributive Trades, Leather Tanning, Building, and Miscellaneous Trades. Employment remained very good throughout the year, though the textile industry is faced with unemployment during 1952.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1951.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,939
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,520
No. of inhabited houses end of 1951, according to Rate Book								7,281
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£134,396
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£532

RAINFALL.

Rainfall was recorded by a Dines Tilting Syphon Rain Gauge which was installed at Judge Fields on the 12th September, 1947, and by a Bucket Rain Gauge (diameter of funnel: 5 inches) which was moved from the Cemetery to Judge Fields on the 1st October, 1947.

The height of the rain gauge site above sea level is 558.55 feet.

The top of the bucket gauge is 1 foot above ground level.

Site Position—Latitude 53°. 51'. 41". N. Longitude 2°. 10'. 40". W.

	Inches.			
Average Annual Rainfall 1901-1951...	...	...	...	39.05

SUMMARY OF RAINFALL FOR 1951.

Month.	Depth in Inches.	No. of days on which rain fell.	
January ...	5.16	20	Monthly average 4'31 inches.
February ...	4.03	21	
March ...	4.56	20	
April ...	2.41	18	Heaviest rainfall for one month, December, 9'30 inches.
May ...	3.03	14	
June ...	1.33	14	Heaviest rainfall for one day, 4th December, 1'36 inches.
July ...	3.56	18	
August...	4.27	24	
September ...	3.31	16	Lowest rainfall for one month, June, 1'33 inches.
October ...	1.50	10	
November ...	9.29	26	
December ...	9.30	25	
Total ...	51.75	226	

TEMPERATURE.

Thermometer moved from Cemetery to Judge Fields, 1st October, 1947.

Highest Temperature, 1935-1951, 16th August, 1947. ... 95°F.

Lowest Temperature, 1935-1951, 20th January, 1940. ... 5°F.

Maximum Temperature, 1951, 21st and 30th July. ... 76°F.

Minimum Temperature, 1951, 10th December, ... 20°F.

This information has been supplied by the Borough Engineer.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS
FOR THE YEAR 1951.

		Total.	Male.	Female.	Birth Rate per thousand of the estimated resident population.
Live Births ...	Legitimate	264	137	127	†14'0
	Illegitimate	23	14	9	
	Totals	287	151	136	

Rate per 1,000 total
(live and still) births.

Still Births ...	{	Legitimate	0	5	1
		Illegitimate	—	—	—
		Totals	0	5	1

20.

Death Rate per
thousand of the estimated
resident population.

Deaths 346 174 172

*16.9

† 1951 adjusted birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.04)=14.5 per 1,000.

* 1951 „ death-rate („ „ 0.91)=15.3 „ „

Maternal mortality :—

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ... Nil

Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

			Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	...	7	2	5
Illegitimate	...	...	1	—	1
Totals	...		8	2	6

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ... 28

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 26

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... 43

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :—

			Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	...	5	2	3
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—
Totals	...		5	2	3

Neo-natal mortality :—

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age ... 5

Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... 17

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

BOROUGH OF COLNE. Population 20,520.		Live Births		Deaths (All causes)		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality				
		Rate per 1,000 pop'n		Rate per 1,000 pop'n		Rate per 1,000 total births		Rate per 1,000 total births		Total		Neo-natal		
		No. regis- tered	No. regis- tered	No. regis- tered	No. regis- tered	No. regis- tered	No. regis- tered	No. of deaths regis- tered	No. of deaths regis- tered	No. of deaths regis- tered	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births		
Year 1951	287	†14.0	346	*10.9	6	20	Nil	8	28	5	17
Year 1950	288	13.8	319	15.3	5	17	Nil	10	35	5	17
„ 1949	306	14.7	315	15.1	10	32	1	9	29	—	—
„ 1948	349	16.7	288	13.8	8	22	1	8	22	—	—
„ 1947	422	20.7	318	15.6	10	23	Nil	11	26	—	—
„ 1946	371	18.4	293	14.5	7	18	Nil	14	37	—	—
Average 5 years—1946-1950.		—	16.9	—	14.9	—	23	—	1.19	—	—	30	—	—

† 1951 adjusted live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.04)=14.5 per 1,000.

* " " death-rate (" " 0.91)=15.3 " "

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH, 1951.

(Registrar General's Official Returns, 1951.)

All Causes 346—Males 174, Females 172.

	Causes of Death.	Males	Females
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	6	3
2	Tuberculosis, other	1	—
3	Syphilitic disease	1	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—
5	Whooping cough	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	1
7	Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8	Measles	1	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	4	5
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	—
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	6
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms... ..	10	9
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	1	1
16	Diabetes	1	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system . .	20	33
18	Coronary disease, angina	29	16
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	4	4
20	Other heart disease	29	39
21	Other circulatory disease	5	2
22	Influenza	10	7
23	Pneumonia	4	3
24	Bronchitis	19	17
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	—
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ...	1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	3	2
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases	11	12
33	Motor vehicle accidents	—	2
34	All other accidents	2	3
35	Suicide	2	2
36	Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
		174	172

ENGLAND AND WALES.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY during the Year 1951.
(Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.)

	Birth-Rate per 1,000 Population.		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population.										Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	
	Live Births	Still- births	All Causes.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Tuberculosis	Influenza.	Smallpox.	Acute Polio- myelitis and polioencephalitis	Pneumonia.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (un- der 2 years).	Total Deaths (under 1 year)	
COLNE	14.5	0.29	15.3	—	—	—	0.48	0.82	—	—	0.34	—	28	
England and Wales ...	15.5	0.36	12.5	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.31	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.61	1.4	30	
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	17.3	0.45	13.4	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.37	0.36	0.00	0.01	0.65	1.6	34	
148 Smaller Towns (Resident populations 25,000 - 50,000 at Census 1931) ...	16.7	0.38	12.5	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.31	0.38	0.00	0.01	0.63	1.0	28	
London Adm. County...	17.8	0.37	13.1	—	0.01	0.00	0.38	0.23	—	0.00	0.61	0.7	26	

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

England and Wales.

COLNE.

Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium ...	...	...	0.10
Abortion with toxæmia ...	...	...	0.00
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium ...	...	...	0.24
Hæmorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth ...	...	...	0.13
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia ...	...	...	0.05
Abortion with sepsis ...	...	...	0.09
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium ...	...	...	0.18

A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1951. *Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under One Year of age.*

Compiled from the Official Registrations.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
All Causes :—	4	1	...	...	5	2	1	...	...	8
Atelectasis	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Hydrocephalus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Icterus Neonatorum ... ..	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Prematurity	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Spina Bifida .. ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1

The Infant Mortality figure for 1951 is 28 per 1,000 live births. This is a decrease of 7 per 1,000 on the figure for 1950, and is 2 per 1,000 less than the rate for the country as a whole.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.—The number of live births registered during the year was 287. Of these, 151 were males and 136 females. The birth rate per 1,000 of the population is 14.0 and is an increase of 0.2 on the previous year, and is 2.9 less than the average for the past five years. The adjusted birth-rate is 14.5 per 1,000, the comparability factor being 1.04.

STILL BIRTHS.—The still-birth rate is 0.07 per thousand of the population below that of the country as a whole.

DEATHS.—The number of deaths registered was 346 of which 174 were males and 172 females. The death-rate is 16.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population, representing an increase of 1.6 on the previous year. The adjusted death-rate is 15.3 per 1,000, the comparability factor being 0.91.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS AND DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1951.

Heart Diseases, Diseases of the Vessels and Cancer were again the principal causes of death in Colne. Deaths from influenza showed a big increase, and those from Bronchitis and Tuberculosis were more numerous. Deaths from Pneumonia were fewer.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Particulars of the Health Department Staff are set out on page 2 of this report.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out for Colne Corporation at the Central Pathological Laboratory at Salus Street (Victoria Hospital), Burnley. The undermentioned bacteriological examinations were undertaken during 1951 :—

	No. Examined.
Water	63
Milk	55
Milk (tubercle bacilli)	55
Total	<u>173</u>

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance facilities provided are adequate for the need of the district, and a full-time service is made available to the public by the County Council for medical and accident cases and for the removal of infectious cases.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

General—There are three District Nurses (one male) working in the area. These are employed by the County Council.

Midwives—There are three Midwives, appointed by the County Council, practising in the area.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics—These clinics are held at Bank House, Albert Road, Colne, the work being administered by the County Council.

The Sessions are :—

Wednesday	10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursday	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
The Doctor's Session is on Wednesday afternoons, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	

The sale of Baby Foods takes place at the following times:—

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday ... 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Mothers attending with children may buy their foods during the hours the Welfare Centre is open.

There are two Health Visitors appointed by the County Council visiting mothers and children in the Colne area.

The accommodation at the Welfare Clinic, Bank House, consists of one Consulting Room, two Dressing and Weighing Rooms, a Kitchen and a large Waiting Room.

THE ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT CLINIC.

Sessions are held at Bank House on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

MINOR AILMENT CLINIC.

A clinic is held at Bank House every morning from 9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.

THE ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.

This is held at Carr Road, Nelson, and visits are arranged on Tuesday and Friday, by appointment.

THE DENTAL CLINIC.

The Dental Clinic at Bank House is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, both mornings and afternoons. The work is administered by the County Council.

THE TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary is conducted at the Reedyford Hospital, Nelson.

The number of patients on the register at December 31st was 95, viz :—

		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Males ...	...	29	16
Females	...	36	14
Total ...		65	30

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINICS.

These are provided by the District Hospital Management Committee, as follows :—

VICTORIA HOSPITAL, BURNLEY.

Males	...	Tuesday	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
		Friday	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Females	...	Tuesday	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
		Friday	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ROYAL INFIRMARY, BLACKBURN.

Males	...	Wednesday	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
		Thursday	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Females	...	Monday	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
		Monday	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

HOSPITALS.

The Hospital Services for Colne are administered by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee, and action is taken by them to secure adequate hospital treatment for the varying needs of the people.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS, AND HOMELESS INFANTS.

Unmarried mothers and children are catered for in Mother and Baby Homes administered by the County Council or Voluntary Societies.

Defective children are the responsibility of the County Children's Committee.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR CARE OF THE MENTALLY DEFECTIVE.

This work is supervised by the County Council.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CARE.

The Health Visitors attend the Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics and co-ordinate the work of the Maternity Home and the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. They make frequent home visits to keep in touch with as many expectant mothers as possible.

A great deal of unnecessary discomfort and ill-health is borne by sensitive women who have a mistaken belief that such suffering is an inevitable accompaniment of childbirth.

There is now no reason why such suffering should continue after childbirth. Opportunity is given for free private consultations at the Clinic for all mothers. The best time for this is about six weeks after the birth of the child.

I again repeat the need for emphasis on the value of Post-natal examinations. At the present time too great a difference exists between the number of Ante-natal examinations and Post-natal examinations.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN.

THE CHRISTIANA HARTLEY MATERNITY HOME, BARROWFORD ROAD.

The Christiana Hartley Maternity Home and Ante-natal Clinic in Barrowford Road, serves the Borough of Colne and the neighbouring districts of the County of Lancaster.

The accommodation available consists of fourteen maternity beds and two isolation beds. The Maternity block contains two labour wards, sterilization room, nursery, and duty room. There is also an Ante-natal Clinic, Observation Block, Kitchen and Laundry.

The accommodation in the Home has been very fully occupied. It appears, from the number of applicants refused admission, to fall short of the actual need.

Experience has shown the need for additional single rooms for the proper nursing of special types of cases, e.g., difficult labours, post eclampsia, heart conditions, cæsarean section and premature births, and particularly for the provision of Ante-natal beds.

PREMATURE INFANTS.

Premature infants are retained in the Maternity Home until their progress is equal to that of a child born at full term pregnancy. Thereafter bi-weekly visits are made by the Health Visitors.

Premature babies born at home are admitted to the Maternity Home or hospital if the home conditions are unsuitable. The midwife has access to special equipment maintained at the Divisional Health Offices for premature babies should it be necessary.

THE ANTE-NATAL CLINIC, CHRISTIANA HARTLEY MATERNITY HOME, BARROWFORD ROAD.

Sessions are held bi-weekly on Wednesday and Friday afternoons for patients seeking admission to the Home. In addition, sessions are held on Monday afternoons by the County Midwives.

The Clinic is situated to the East of the main building of the Home, from which it is entirely separate. The accommodation consists of Waiting Room and Sanitary Accommodation, Dressing Cubicles, Laboratory and two Consulting Rooms.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no Maternal deaths in the Borough during the year.

Table showing the total number of Births and Stillbirths, and the total number of Maternal deaths for the last ten years.

Year.	Totals including County Cases and other Areas.		Borough of Colne only.	
	No. of Births.	No. of Maternal Deaths.	No. of Births.	Maternal Deaths.
1942	425	3	275	3
1943	415	1	307	1
1944	401	1	296	1
1945	499	2	288	1
1946	672	—	371	—
1947	741	—	422	—
1948	657	1	357	1
1949	602	1	316	—
1950	396	—	278	—
1951	397	—	278	—

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

(Under Part VII of the Public Health Act, 1936).

The welfare of children has long been the concern and interest of this local authority and, in spite of the powers to act being transferred to the County Council, the interest is always present.

Information of cases of neglect or cruelty, or both, reaches the Department through very many channels. These are usually School Nurses, Health Visitors, Teachers, Attendance Officers, and on many occasions through neighbours. All rumours or reports are investigated. Warnings are issued if necessary and close watch is kept on the case or cases. If all this fails to produce the desired effect, the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector is communicated with, and he visits the house. Usually, this has a salutary effect. In all cases where warnings have been issued or there has been a suspicion of neglect close supervision is maintained.

DAY NURSERIES.

There are two Day Nurseries under the administration of the County Council.

The one at North Valley Road accommodates 76 children, and that at Haverholt 49 children.

Newtown Nursery School opened during the Spring, accommodates 40 children, and is under the control of the Education Authority.

These Nurseries have been fully occupied.

List of Local Acts, Special Local Orders, General Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws in force in the District.

- Colne and Marsden Local Board Act, 1881.
 Colne Corporation Act, 1897.
 Colne Corporation Act, 1905.
 Colne Corporation Act, 1921.
 Colne Corporation Act, 1933.
 Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938, Section 115.
 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. (Except Sections 16 to 27, 32, 33, 36 and 47 repealed by P.H.A. 1936).
 Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890. (Except Sections 5 to 15 and 17 repealed by P.H.A. 1936).
 Local Government Boards Provisional Orders Confirmation (No. 14) Act, 1903.
 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (Sections 17 22, 81, 85, 86 and 94).
 Public Health Act, 1925, Part 2 (Except Section 20 repealed by P.H.A. 1936).
 Housing of the Rural Workers Scheme approved by the Minister of Health, 12th February, 1929, as amended by Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1942.
 Borough of Colne (Offensive Trades) Confirmation Order, 1932.
 The Colne (Fish and Greengrocery Shops) Weekly Half-day Holiday Order, 1946.
 Stationers' and Booksellers' Exemption Order, 1913.
 Closing Order for Butchers' Shops, 1921.
 The Colne (Fried Fish and Chip Shops) Weekly Half Holiday Order, 1939.
 The Colne (Food) Order, 1950.
- BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS :—**
 New Streets, 1925.
 Bye-laws with respect to Common Lodging Houses, 1908.
 " " " Houses-let-in Lodgings, 1925.
 " " " Private Slaughterhouses, 1908.
 Public Slaughterhouse Bye-laws, 1933.
 " " (Regulations), 1932.
 Bye-laws with respect to Offensive Trades, 1934.
 " " " " Fouling of Footways by Dogs, 1936.
 Building Bye-laws, 1939.
 Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, 1950.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Four hundred and fifteen cases of infectious disease (other than Tuberculosis) were notified during the year. Of these, 342 were Measles, most of which occurred in the March and June Quarters. There was one death, a male child of sixteen months. In addition, 39 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, of which 35 were confirmed. Furthermore, there were 18 cases of Pneumonia, of which four elderly persons died, and 16 cases of Whooping Cough. A fatal case of Meningococcal Infection, and the only one notified, affected a girl of three years.

SMALLPOX.—The vaccinated population in Colne is far too low. It invites a serious state of affairs should an epidemic break out. I strongly recommend parents to have their babies vaccinated as early as possible after birth.

IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

DIPHTHERIA.—Clinics for active immunisation against Diphtheria are held at the School Clinic at Bank House.

Diphtheria Toxoid Alum Precipitated is the prophylactic used.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Accommodation is provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee for all cases of infectious disease. Practically all cases are admitted to Marsden Road Infectious Diseases Hospital. On rare occasions, when accommodation is not available at this hospital, other hospitals in the group are used.

Altogether, 37 Colne patients were admitted to hospital during the year.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1951.

19

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.										HOSPITAL.	
	Total cases at all ages.	AGE PERIODS—YEARS.								Total Deaths	Total cases removed to hospital from the District.	Deaths in hospital of persons belonging to district.
		0	1	3	5	10	15	25	45	65 and over		
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	35	—	1	12	18	3	1	—	—	—	31	—
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles(excluding Rubella)	342	2	86	129	121	2	1	1	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough.....	16	4	4	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	18	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	4	9	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis—Paralytic.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Acute Encephalitis—Infective	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Post-Infectious	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria—Contracted—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
In England & Wales ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abroad	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	415	6	91	153	140	6	4	2	4	9	37	3

TUBERCULOSIS.

It has not been found necessary to enforce the provisions of the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, with reference to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, employed in the milk trade.

New cases and mortality during 1951.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 years.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 „.....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 „.....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
5 „.....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
10 „.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 „.....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 „.....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 „.....	2	1	2	...	...	2	...	...
35 „.....	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	...
45 „.....	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...
55 „.....	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
65 „.....	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
75 and upwards.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	6	6	4	2	6	3	1	...
	12		6		9		1	

The notification of Tuberculosis is reasonably efficient.

Annual Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Dr. R. E. Robinson,

Medical Officer of Health,

Borough of Colne.

Sir,

I have pleasure in here submitting my report on the sanitary inspection of the borough for the year 1951. As formerly, I have commented on those items especially prominent in the year's work leaving the statistical details as appendices.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

It is gratifying to record that the extensive improvements to the abattoir buildings and the installation of modern handling equipment which was foreshadowed in my report of last year, are virtually complete.

The original buildings, which were erected in 1899, though subject to little external disturbance, have been transformed internally to provide more humane methods of dealing with livestock and mechanical handling of dressed carcasses. Not only will it be possible to deal economically with many more animals but the finished carcasses will be cleaner. This will result in improved keeping quality, and less waste of meat through spoilage.

Whilst the equipment installed and the finishes of walls and floors are of the best material and design now known, finality in these matters has not necessarily been reached. One thing however is certain, that is, that Colne is now in the front rank of abattoir authorities, and will I hope, continue to pioneer in this field.

PERSONAL HYGIENE.

The campaign for cleaner handling of food will be a long one, retarded as it is by restrictions on capital expenditure and lack of labour and materials. Some of these difficulties are becoming less substantial but were they to disappear overnight the road would still "wind up hill all the way" and be travelled slowly and tediously. Why? Because on the one hand many of those now handling food have already formed habits and prejudices which are only changed with great difficulty. On the other, an opportunity to inculcate right habits in the future food handlers is being lost because of the woeful lack of washing facilities in most of our schools. Hygiene in the curriculum is a lifeless subject if the physical means to practice even its elementary principles, are lacking.

Happily, the Colne Corporation is amongst the few enlightened authorities which have made hand washing possible after using the public conveniences, and without charge. It is known that these facilities are much appreciated by many people.

FOUL AIR.

Colne's prosperity depends largely on busy mills burning large quantities of coal to produce power, heat and, in some cases, light. Much of the heating value in the coal burnt for this purpose is allowed to pass up the chimney and be lost into the atmosphere. At the same time the town and countryside are fouled by smoke, grit and noxious gases to such an extent that vegetation is stunted and men, women and children are deprived of sunlight. There is no single cure for this great social evil but a first essential is information about the exact nature of the problem which, for various reasons, is a changing one.

To keep a constant watch on the nature and extent of atmospheric pollution requires regular measurement month by month with one or more standard deposit gauges. There are now some 120 local authorities co-operating in this work and they each have the advantage of the information so obtained. Far more than 120 authorities are troubled by fouling of the air over their towns and cities and no town can deal fully with a nuisance such as this without some measurement of its extent. I look forward to the establishment of at least one such instrument in Colne in the near future.

HOUSING.

An annual report concerned with environmental hygiene would be incomplete without reference to this subject.

Most rented dwellings, except local authority houses, come within the Rent Restrictions Acts and thus nearly all citizens enjoy house room at less than its real value. It is probable that this system of rent controls and subsidies creates more waste and injustice than it relieves in the way of hardship.

Many newly married couples are forced to share crowded quarters or pay very high rents for the few uncontrolled dwellings. There are 225 applicants (married couples and families) for Council houses, who are sharing with other people. Others travel long distances to work in order to remain in a controlled house and may spend, in travelling expenses, more than their rent. Families reduced in size by death or marriage are reluctant to move into a smaller house, whilst a growing family in cramped or overcrowded conditions would welcome increased accommodation.

Most controlled rents were fixed before 1919 and bear no relation to present day building costs. Consequently, the best of landlords cannot make proper provision for repairs. The houses in this group, and they number about eight million or more than half the total stock, are in this way, being hastened to premature decay and the end is demolition. This is not only wasteful but adds the occupying family to the long waiting list for new houses.

THE FOOD YOU BUY IS UNDER OUR EYE.

In years long past, bakers of bread and brewers of beer equalled the motorist of the present in the number of times they came before the Magistrates. To-day, we take both bread and beer for granted along with many other items of food. When we ask for bread we expect and receive a wholesome loaf unadulterated and free from impurities.

This confidence rests on the integrity of the general body of food manufacturers and on the vigilance of Food and Drugs authorities through their inspectors. There have been standards of size for plaice, sole and other fish for many years and there is a growing number of legal standards of composition laid down by Parliament, for other foods. Some of these appear in the list of samples taken during the year, [Page 45].

The regular and systematic examination of food by the 278 Food and Drugs Authorities, and Colne is one of them, not only keeps up the standard, but assists manufacturers to rectify faults in their methods or equipment.

Occasionally, food of inferior quality is discovered. When this happens the matter is carefully examined and steps are taken, not always in the Courts, to put it right.

CONCLUSION.

The year has been especially noteworthy for three improvement schemes, namely, alterations at the abattoir, the removal of the surrounding wall and the opening of the office forecourt to the footpath, and late in the year work commenced on the building of a set of public lavatories on a site between the Public Library and the Municipal Hall. These are being designed and equipped in collaboration with a private architect and will be constructed so as to be easily cleaned and maintained, and have a cleanly and pleasing appearance.

For this continued support for environmental hygiene I am especially indebted to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and to you, Sir, for your understanding and encouragement.

To all members of this and other departments of the Corporation I say thank you for your interest, help and service during the year.

I am Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

S. CAYTON.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Circumstances.

WATER SUPPLY.

TOWN'S WATER :

The town's water is obtained from a catchment area of 780 acres near at hand on Emmott Moor which feeds the Laneshaw Reservoir and has a capacity of 75 million gallons.

The reservoir is well situated, 858 feet above Ordnance Datum.

Corn Close Borehole, with pumping plant, was completed in 1937. The capacity of the borehole is 40,000 gallons per hour.

The supply is adequate and of excellent quality, giving satisfactory bacteriological and chemical analyses.

The following examinations were made during the year :—

(a) Raw Water	Bacteriological Examinations	12
	Chemical Analyses	1
(b) Water going into supply, where treatment is installed	Bacteriological Examinations	111
	Chemical Analyses	10

Chlorination plant installed in the Laneshaw Filter House during 1942, treats both the low level and high level supplies.

Filtration is carried out by Bell and Candy mechanical pressure filters.

The method of chemical coagulation has been improved. Following tests with activated sodium silicate, it was discovered that sodium bicarbonate used with aluminium sulphate gave a much better "floc" formation and better filtration.

Ten samples have been analysed for plumbo-solvency, and the analyst states that plumbo-solvent action is negligible.

Mains extensions to new housing sites have proceeded, and one farmhouse connected to the mains. Reservicing work under an assisted scheme has given greatly improved supplies to 61 houses in the Borough.

No. of houses, including business premises, with piped supplies :—

Direct from mains	7,940
Metered Supplies (Business premises)	245

There are no supplies by means of standpipe.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES:

Fifty-nine samples were taken from private supplies during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination. The results obtained were classified as follows:—

		Presumptive Coliform Count per 100 m. l.	Number.
Class I	Highly satisfactory	Less than 1	25
Class II	Satisfactory	1-2	5
Class III	Suspicious	3-10	2
Class IV	Unsatisfactory but tolerable in the circumstances	11-50	12
Class V	Unfit supplies	over 50	15

Generally these supplies feed isolated farmsteads and cottages, now 54 in number, and though based on one or two samples only, the results give an approximate assessment of the quality of the supply.

Owners are pressed to give particular attention to copings, lining, and covering of wells and tanks, or the substitution of jointed pipes for open-jointed field drains, in order to improve the quality of their supply.

Repairs or renewal of fittings were carried out in 7 instances, and one private supply was connected to town's main.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are approximately 40 miles of sewers within the area.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The arrangements for sewage disposal are concentrated at the Sewage Purification Works in Burnley Road. The plant and methods of treatment have again been satisfactory during the year, and the standard has been maintained to the satisfaction of the Lancashire Rivers Board. A small laboratory is used for the testing of sewage and effluents.

The extension of the sewerage system to the less remote areas where a water supply is available, and the replacement of pails and septic tanks with clean water closets, would be a scheme worthy of consideration.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Lancashire Rivers Board is responsible for the supervision and protection of the rivers and streams in the area and, where necessary their attention is directed to cases of river pollution.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There were 70 pail closets and 41 tanks or privies still in use in the area at the end of the year. In most of these cases there is an adequate supply of water, but no sewer available. Conversions to the water carriage system would necessitate the provision of a septic tank, but due care should be taken before installations of these are carried out, to ensure that land and ditches are not fouled by the effluents.

The conversion of 60 waste-water closets into fresh water closets has been carried out during the year under review. The Corporation grant of £3 per conversion was increased to £5 as from December.

At the end of the year there were still approximately 3,247 waste-water closets within the Borough. Their conversion is the greatest outstanding sanitary improvement.

Conversions and additions in 1951 :—

Waste W.Cs to fresh W.Cs	...	...	60
Waste W.Cs abolished	...	...	8
Tank Closets to fresh W.Cs	...	...	—
Pail Closets to fresh W.Cs	...	...	—
Pail Closets abolished	...	...	—
Additional fresh W.Cs provided	...	...	89
Water Closets abolished	...	...	—

Various types existing at the end of 1951.

		F.W.Cs	W.W.Cs	Tanks	Pails
Dwellinghouses	...	4415	3207	39	70
Factories, Offices and Lock-up Shops		866	18	—	—
Sunday Schools and Institutions	...	138	3	2	—
Day Schools	...	132	9	—	—
Public Buildings, Offices, etc.	...	142	10	—	—
Totals	...	5693	3247	41	70

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse is collected from (approximately 7420) bins at houses and other buildings, and is transported in four "Karrier" Bantam refuse collection vehicles. A horse and cart is hired for short journeys and a Highways Department wagon is used for relief work. A new "Karrier" refuse collecting vehicle replaced a similar outworn vehicle.

Street cleansing is carried out by a "Karrier" Motor Sweeper and collectors, working on the "beat" system with "Orderly" trucks.

Gullies are emptied by a "Karrier" Mechanical Gully Emptyer.

The disposal of refuse is by a four-cell furnace of the top-feed type at the Destructor Works and by controlled tipping. A "Bristol" Angledozer was purchased for handling and levelling of refuse on controlled tips.

A Salvage Scheme has been in operation since 1940, and up to the end of March, 1952, 6862 tons of material at a value of £26,985 had been recovered and sold.

Kitchen waste is sold raw and is heat-treated by the customer before being used as animal food.

Pail closets are emptied by Colne Corporation at the owners request.

This Service is administered by the Borough Engineer to whom I am indebted for most of this information.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

The following is a summary of the 3672 inspections made during the year :—

Houses re defects (complaints, etc.)	...	...	1114
„ re Infectious Disease	...	...	37
„ re dirty/verminous conditions	...	...	52
„ re Tuberculosis	...	...	3
„ inspected under Housing Acts	...	...	28
„ inspected re overcrowding	...	...	7
„ re Corporation house tenancies	...	...	62
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	14
Drains inspected and/or tested	...	...	304
Sewers inspected and/or tested	...	...	17
Factories with Power	...	...	84
Factories without Power	...	...	6
Workplaces (general)	...	...	3
Workplaces (offices)	...	...	3
Outworkers premises	...	...	5
Smoke Observations	...	...	90
Visits to premises re smoke emissions, etc.	...	...	12
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	40
Bakehouses	...	...	89
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	40
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	36

Cafe and Canteen premises	51
Food Shops and Warehouses	199
Premises re making-up of Meat products	33
Visits re insufficient water supplies (main)	57
" " private " " 	28
Visits to Public Abattoir	610
Visits to private slaughterhouses (includes farms to inspect dressed pigs)	34
Visits re unsound food	67
Keeping of poultry, animals, etc.	29
Visits re Rats and Mice	59
Offensive Trades and Marine Stores	17
Schools	16
Public Sanitary Conveniences	114
Licensed Houses	7
Public Mortuary	5
Chemical Samples—Water	2
Formal Samples Purchased	74
Informal Samples Purchased	51
Bacteriological Samples—(a) Water... ..	63
" " (b) Milk	55
Biological—Milk	55
	<hr/>
	3672
	<hr/>

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL VISITS.

Rodent Operative : No. of Visits	557
Disinfecting and Stoving Houses after Infectious Disease	40
Number of Beds Disinfected by Steam (Including Bedding)	3

DEFECTS REMEDIED & SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Chimneys and Roofs repaired	33
External walls pointed and rendered free from dampness	23
External doors and fittings repaired	7
Yards resurfaced or repaired	71
Walls and ceilings repaired or renewed	53
New windows provided or repaired... ..	30
Floors repaired or renewed	10
Hot water service installed	5
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	10
Water supply improved or new services provided	62

Sinks, baths and lavatory basins provided	29
W.C.s. and closet buildings repaired	20
Tippers repaired	8
W.W.C.'s converted or abolished under Corporation's Grant Scheme	61
Eaves gutters and fall pipes repaired or renewed	77
Sink waste pipes trapped or repaired	8
New drains constructed	75
Drains and sewers inspected and/or tested... ..	320
Drains cleansed and/or repaired	56
Defective dustbins replaced	167
Houses and other buildings sprayed with insecticidal fluid ...	17
Houses and Bedding washed and cleansed	7
Offensive accumulations removed	12
Rodent infested premises dealt with	82
Rent Book ommissions	3
Pail closets replaced... ..	2

TABLE OF NUISANCES RECORDED AND ABATED.

Number of complaints received... ..	251
„ „ informal notices served	150
„ „ statutory notices served	57
„ „ nuisances discovered	289
„ „ „ outstanding from 1950	101
„ „ „ abated	287
„ „ „ carried forward to 1952	103

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power	84	2	—
Factories without mechanical power	6	1	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and Engineering con- struction but not including outworkers' premises).	—	—	—
Total	90	3	—

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	8	7	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary { insufficient	—	1	—	—
Conveniences { unsuitable or defective	3	4	2	—
(S. 7) { not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Outwork).				
Total	11	12	2	—

RODENT CONTROL.

Fifty-nine inspections were made to alleged rat infested premises by Sanitary Inspectors. The technique advised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is carried out in all cases of infestation. The newer poisons, such as Warfarin have not been employed.

During the year 557 visits were made by the Rodent Operative to 82 infested premises. In several instances the premises were treated on more than one occasion during the year, the total number of actual treatments being 130. Twelve "block" control schemes were carried out.

The entire sewer system of the town is now treated twice yearly for the destruction of rats living therein. Experience shows that most infestations are associated with defective sewers or drains. Consequently, the poisoning of rats in sewers, though limited by the fact that baiting is only practicable at the manholes, materially reduces the number of rats on the surface. The results of these sewer treatments reveal a decrease in the rat population compared with earlier years.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Fourteen visits were paid during the year to this type of dwelling. No action was necessary.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no registered common lodging houses within the Borough.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The offensive trades carried out in Colne are:—

Tanners 3; Leather Dressers 4.

These businesses have been carried on without complaint during the year. One tripe boiler discontinued trading during the year.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Shop and office workers number about eighty per cent of all employed persons, other than those engaged in industrial or domestic work. The Public Health Act, 1936, and the Shops Acts are deliberately framed to promote the health and well-being of this group of workers, but, although a total of 234 inspections were made to shops, and 3 to offices, there is still a vast amount of inspectorial work to be done in the matter of temperature, lighting and ventilation, sanitary accommodation and hours of employment in shops. The number of offices is virtually unknown.

One informal notice re unsuitable temperature was served and complied with. No other action was taken.

CLOSING OF SHOPS.—Twenty-five inspections were made after closing hours, and it was noted that the regulations were generally being observed.

ANALYSIS OF SHOPS WITHIN THE BOROUGH.

Animal and Bird Foods		Lending Library	...	...	1
and Aquaria	...	Milk Purveyor	...	...	1
Arts and Crafts	...	Music Dealer	...	...	2
Brushmaker	...	Needlecraft	...	...	1
Butchers	...	Newsagents and			
Builders' Merchants and	...	Booksellers	...	...	24
Fire-range Dealers	...	Painters and Decorators	...	...	15
Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers	4	Photographers	...	...	1
Chemists	...	Picture Framers	...	...	2
Cloggers and Boot and		Plumbers	...	...	13
Shoe Repairers	...	Printers	...	...	5
Confectioners, Cafes...	...	Sports Outfitters	...	...	1
Cycle Dealer	...	Sweets	...	...	15
Dry Cleaners	...	Tailors and Outfitters	...	...	14
Fancy Goods	...	Tobacconists	...	...	3
Fish Friers	...	Toys	...	...	2
Florists	...	Tripe Sellers	...	...	2
French Polishers	...	Wardrobe Dealers	...	...	2
Funeral Service	...	Wine and Spirit Merchants	...	...	2
Furnishers (House)	...	Wireless and Electrical Equip.			11
Gas Appliances	...				—
Garages	...				503
General Store	...				
Glass and China Ware	...	Vacant Shops	...	...	49
Greengrocers	...				—
Grocers and Mixed	...				552
Hairdressers (Ladies)	...				—
„ (Men)	...	Market Hall:			
Herbalists	...	Shops	...	...	17
Ironmongers and	...	Stalls	...	...	76
Hardware	...	Cafes	...	...	3
Jewellers and Opticians	...	Vacant	...	...	—
Ladies' Wear	...				—
Leather and Grindery	...				96
					—
		Grand Total	...	...	648

The foregoing figures should be studied carefully by shopkeepers and prospective shopkeepers. They amount to approximately one occupied shop to every 34 persons, men, women and children, or about

one shop to every 12 inhabited houses. It is true that there is a floating population attracted by the covered market and shopping facilities generally and a country population which comes into the town because of the existence of a cattle market, but these non-resident buyers do not reach all parts of the town.

A recent survey entitled "Britain's Shops," and prepared by the Board of Trade, shows a total of 714,788 shops, being one shop for every 68 persons, as against 1: 34 for Colne. These figures are not, however, strictly comparable. For example, the Survey, for its own purpose, only records trading premises and ignores the existence of two or more distinct and separate businesses if they are in the same ownership. It ignores, also, mobile shops, market stallholders and the showrooms of the Gas and Electricity Boards. All these are included in the Colne figures and account to some extent for the wide discrepancy, but the number of shops to the population of Colne is still high.

CAMPING SITES.

No applications were received for the use of sites in the area for camping purposes, but licences were issued in respect of two individual Caravans.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Ninety smoke observations were made and in three instances it was found necessary to report the existence of a smoke nuisance to the management of the firms concerned. Evening Classes in Boiler House Practice were again conducted at Colne Technical School, and have been attended by engineers and stokers. Suitable visiting speakers have assisted the Senior Sanitary Inspector and films have been shown for the benefit of the Class and other interested persons.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public. The Corporation owns Public Baths and Swimming Pools, which were opened in 1909.

They consist of the following :—

An adult swimming pool, children's swimming pool, shower and foot baths, with dressing cubicles, sanitary accommodation, and seats for spectators. There is also a series of medicated baths.

The water is frequently tested by the Baths Department to ensure satisfactory conditions. One sample taken by Health Department was found to be satisfactory.

DISINFESTATION.

Disinfestation is here taken to include all insects and parasites.

Private houses are inspected and disinfested upon complaint of infestation from the owner or occupier, and spraying and dusting is carried out according to circumstances with removal of wallpaper in severe bug infestations. Such cases are rare.

The following treatments were carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors :—

Council Houses.	Other Houses.	Bakelhouses and Rest. Kitchens.	Schools and Hospitals.	Public Abattoir.	Insecticide Used
1	9	2	1	1	D.D.T. in kerosene.
1	—	—	1	—	"Gammexane" Spray.
—	1	—	—	—	Vermoose.
—	1	—	—	—	"Gammexane" Powder.

CORPORATION HOUSES—INCOMING TENANTS.

Personal effects and premises of prospective Corporation tenants are inspected for vermin, and treatment arranged as may be found necessary. The following is a record of the work done in this respect :—

Houses and effects inspected for vermin...	...	...	62
Houses where vermin found	...	...	3
Disinfestation treatment carried out by this department			2

SCHOOLS.

There are 14 County Schools and 1 private School within the Borough.

Sixteen inspections were made during the year. Generally, sanitary and washing facilities leave much to be desired. Additions to the already insufficient washing facilities, including hot water, are essential for the increasing number of scholars taking meals at school, and for reasonable standards of personal hygiene to be practised.

LICENSED HOUSES.

There are 22 Licensed Houses within the Borough. In all, 7 inspections were made, and generally the sanitary accommodation was

found to be satisfactory. In one instance new sanitary conveniences, both male and female, were provided, following the service of an informal notice.

Cleanly practices appear to be observed in the washing of glasses.

LETHAL CHAMBER.

A lethal chamber is provided at Bank House, where injured or unwanted dogs and cats can be painlessly destroyed by electrical apparatus which has the full approval of the R.S.P.C.A. This service is available during normal office hours, on payment of one shilling for each animal. The following number of animals have been destroyed during the year:—

Dogs	...	...	...	...	177
Cats	...	...	...	...	216
Total					<hr/> 393

This apparatus has been in use since May 1949, and the number of animals dealt with continues to rise.

MORTUARY.

Arrangements are made in collaboration with the police for cleaning and such attention as may be required.

Internal painting and decorating has been carried out during the year.

Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total including numbers given separately under (b) ...	...	...	39
(i) By the Local Authority ...	...	...	29
(ii) By other Local Authorities ...	...	...	—
(iii) By other bodies and persons ...	...	...	10

(b) With state assistance under the Housing Act :—

(i) By the Local Authority ...	...	...	29
(ii) By other bodies or persons ...	...	...	—

Total Number of New Houses built by the Local Authority under Various Acts, to the end of 1951.

(1) Housing Act 1919 ...	...	...	56
(2) Housing Act 1924 ...	...	...	442
(3) Housing Act 1925, Part III ...	...	...	132
(4) Housing Act 1930 ...	...	...	390
(5) Housing Act 1936 ...	...	...	156
			1176

1. *Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	...	360
(b) The number of inspections made for the purpose ...	...	1179
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	...	1
(b) The number of inspections made for the purpose ...	...	1
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	...	—
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	...	179

2—*Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	148
--	-----	-----	-----

3—*Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—*

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	—
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—					
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	...	...	—

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—*

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	31
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—			
(a) By owners	...	...	26
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	5

* Refers only to Housing defects.

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	—
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	—

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	—

Nine houses were demolished during the year in confirmed clearance areas.

4 *Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding :—*

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year (Exact number unknown).	5
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	36

(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	8

5 *Housing Act, 1919* :—

	Schemes of private bodies or individuals.	Schemes of local authority.
(a) (i) Number of Schemes submitted :		
(a) by private individuals to local authority.	8	—
(b) by local authority to Ministry	3	—
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected.	8	—
(b) (i) Number of Schemes approved by Ministry.	3	—
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected.	3	—
(iii) Number of additional separate dwellings to be provided under these approved Schemes.	—	—
(c) Number of additional separate dwellings actually completed during the year.	—	—

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

In the Borough there are approximately 405 back-to-back, 202 single, and 30 back-to-earth houses requiring attention under the Housing Act. These houses will inevitably form the basis of future Slum Clearance Areas. Throughout the town there is a widespread lack of indoor sanitary accommodation, baths and hot and cold water.

Number of applicants for Corporation flats	... ..	191
" " " Corporation bungalows	... ..	117
" " " Corporation houses	... ..	453
Total number of applicants for housing accommodation.	... ..	761
No. of applicants at present sharing houses with other families	...	225

Particulars of Housing Schemes in hand or contemplated :—

In hand :—Bradley St.— 18 houses.
 Glenroy Avenue—5 bungalows.
 Windy Bank—20 flats.

Contemplated :—Windy Bank—14 houses.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

Forty inspections were made of the milkshops and dairies within the Borough.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 :

No. of registered distributors operating from :—

(a) Dairies in the district	...	...	...	...	...	13
(b) Dairy farms in the district	...	...	...	...	...	3
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies	...	...	...	...	...	44
(d) Premises outside the district	...	...	...	...	...	5

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 :

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1951 :—

(a) "Tuberculin Tested" Milk (Distribution)	...	...	...	22
(b) "Accredited" Milk (Distribution)	...	...	...	1

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 :

No. of licences issued in respect of heat treated milk :—

Retail Distributors (a) "Pasteurised"	...	...	...	8
(b) "Sterilised"	...	...	...	42

No refusal or revocation of licences for graded milk was necessary during the year.

SAMPLING :

(a) RAW MILK.

(i) Tuberculosis—biological tests :—

No. of samples	...	...	...	52
No. positive...	...	...	...	3
No. negative	...	...	...	49

(ii) Bacteriological examinations :—

No. of samples	...	...	...	52
No. satisfactory	...	...	...	47
No. unsatisfactory	...	...	...	5

(b) HEAT TREATED MILK.

(i) Methylene Blue Reduction test :—

No. of samples	...	...	...	3
No. satisfactory	...	...	...	3
No. unsatisfactory	...	...	...	—

(ii) Tuberculosis :—

No. of samples	...	...	...	...	3
No. positive	...	...	...	...	—
No. negative	...	...	...	...	3

No. of notifications of tuberculous milk forwarded to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in respect of:—

(a) Milk produced in the district	...	...	...	...	2
(b) Milk produced in other districts	...	...	...	...	1

Result of Ministry investigations within the district during the year arising from notifications by the local authority :—

No. of veterinary inspections	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of cases where animals seized under Tuberculosis Order, 1938	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of animals seized	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of cases reported negative where animals had been sold prior to investigation	...	...	...	...	...	1
(in this case a cow removed prior to inspection was traced and found to be healthy)						
No. of cases reported negative, no animals seized	...	...	...	...	...	2

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949, REGULATION 20.

Notice was served on a producer/retailer after the result of a sample taken for tubercle bacilli was found to be 'positive.' The milk produced was heat-treated for a period of 2 months, when the notice was withdrawn. The milk from the herd was then found to be free from tuberculosis after samples had been taken by the Divisional Veterinary Officer. One animal previously removed from the premises was traced and found to be healthy.

ICE CREAM.

There are on the Ice Cream register :—

Manufacturer/Retailers	.....	7
Retailers (Loose Ice Cream)	.....	5
Retailers (Pre-wrapped)	.....	37
Mobile Vehicles	.....	5

One manufacturing/wholesaler has closed his premises in the Borough during the year. The manufacturing/retailers are small and medium traders supplying their own needs. The hot-mix method is used in 5 cases, and a complete cold-mix in the remaining 2 instances.

Most retailers favour the sale of pre-wrapped Ice Cream, registrations having doubled during the year. The majority of applicants had mixed businesses dealing in a large variety of other goods.

Of the 5 mobile vehicles offering Ice cream for sale, 4 of these come from neighbouring districts.

All premises are visited frequently in order to maintain a high standard of hygiene. Forty visits were made during the year, and all registered premises were found to be satisfactory.

SAMPLING :

QUALITY.

Five samples were taken and analysed, as follows :—

	Fat	Other Milk Solids	Sugar
(1)	6.2%	7.0%	14.9%
(2)	7.6%	7.0%	11.7%
(3)	9.1%	6.6%	16.3%
(4)	7.2%	9.0%	13.1%
(5)	8.5%	10.0%	14.6%

The minimum
legal standard

is :— 5% 7.5% 10%

The first 3 samples were slightly deficient in non-fatty milk solids, and the vendors concerned were advised of the action required to adjust their recipe.

FOOD POISONING.

No cases were reported during the year.

SNACK BARS, CAFES, CANTEENS AND RESTAURANT KITCHENS.

Fifty-one inspections were made during the year and generally the premises were found to be satisfactory.

Request was made by the Ministry of Food for approval of premises in 7 instances, prior to the issuing of a Catering Licence. The premises were found to be satisfactory in 5 cases, these being for the serving of light meals only. In another instance lock-up premises were satisfactorily equipped prior to the opening of a light snack bar. In this case too, there was excellent co-operation by the Ministry of Food.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

A "Hygiene for Food Handlers" Course has been held at the Colne Technical School during the Winter months for the benefit of food traders and employees. Film strips have been shown and visits made to food preparing premises in the district by members of the Class.

A one-day Bakery Hygiene Conference was held during November in the Lesser Municipal Hall, comprising afternoon and evening sessions. Suitable addresses were given, film strips were shown and displays of modern equipment provided. The attendance and interest were very good. The Conference ended with an evening visit to a large bakery in the town.

Free hand washing facilities are provided for both sexes in the Colne Lane Conveniences, including soap, hot water and paper towelling. Food traders delivering in the town, including those from other towns, have been circularised that their drivers and roundsmen can take advantage of this amenity. New public conveniences in Albert Road, expected to be open to the public during the first half of 1952, will also be equipped with these facilities.

The redesigning and equipping of the Public Abattoir, to be completed and put into operation very early in 1952, should ensure dressed meat of a very high standard of cleanliness.

Model Byelaws for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, were adopted by the Council in July, 1950. These Byelaws are being enforced by the Department, and food traders are showing some willingness to co-operate. Traders are also being asked to keep dogs and cats off the premises, either their own or their customers.

MEAT INSPECTION.

HOME-KILLED MEAT:

The Abattoir has been used as a slaughtering centre for Colne, Nelson, Barrowford, Trawden and Foulridge since January, 1940.

The following numbers of animals were slaughtered and inspected at the Abattoir during 1951:—

Cows	...	...	...	1,616
Other Cattle	...	...	...	2,580
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	9,721
Pigs	...	...	...	504
Calves	...	...	...	1,780
Total				<u>...</u> 16,201

These include 6,113 Sheep and Lambs and 5 pigs which were slaughtered at the Co-operative Society's Stanley Street premises whilst the alterations to the Abattoir were in progress.

In addition, 67 cottagers' pigs were slaughtered in private slaughter-houses and on own premises by registered slaughtermen. All but 2 of these were inspected.

IMPORTED MEAT :

The following quantity of Imported Meat was distributed from the Abattoir during the year :—

Total nett weight ... 501 tons 15 cwts. 0 qtrs. 0 lbs.

This quantity includes a very small proportion of home-killed meat slaughtered at other abattoirs and forwarded to Colne for distribution along with imported meat by the Wholesale Meat Supply Association.

ABATTOIR IMPROVEMENTS :

Extensive improvements to the buildings and equipment at the Abattoir, as approved by the Ministries of Food and Health, were almost completed at the year end. This work will be finished very early in 1952, when slaughtering facilities will then be available to compare favourably with the most up-to-date abattoir. Owing to the limited space available whilst these alterations were in progress, sheep slaughtering was transferred to the Co-operative Society's Stanley Street premises from August to the end of the year.

MEAT AND FOOD CONDEMNED.

				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
MEAT :—							
CATTLE							
Carcases (71)	...	...	...	13	18	1	22
Portions of Beef (81)	...	...	...	2	9	2	26
Heads (395)...							
Livers (753)...							
Part of Livers (520)							
Lungs (968)...	...	...	...	11	4	0	3
Mesenteries (123)							
Udders (485)							
Stomachs (135)							
Other Offal							
CALVES							
Carcases (41)	...	...	...	—	9	2	11
Heads (42)							
Livers (56)	...	...	...	—	1	3	16
Lungs (44)							
PIGS							
Carcases (6)...	...	...	...	—	8	0	23
Heads (27) ...							
Livers (42) ...							
Lungs (38) ...	...	...	...	—	7	1	12
Chitterlings (11)							

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

Carcases (15)	...	...	...	—	4	2	11
Portions of Mutton (8)	...	...	...	—	—	3	8
Heads (18)							
Livers (478)	...	...	...	—	9	3	16
Lungs (20)							

CORNERED BEEF

78 x 6lb. Tins	...	...	...	—	4	0	20
Total	...			29	18	3	0

Tuberculous MEAT condemned (Included in previous total):—

				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
CATTLE							
Carcases (59)	...	...	...	11	17	3	1
Parts of Carcases (64)	...	...	...	2	6	2	27
CALVES							
Carcases (9) (Congenital T.B.)	...			—	2	0	19
PIGS							
Carcases (2)...	...	...	...	—	2	2	3
Heads (27)	...	...	...	—	4	0	12
Total	...			14	13	1	6

CONGENITAL TUBERCULOSIS.

In all cases when this disease is discovered in calves immediate notification is given to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. On numerous occasions during the year the dam has been traced and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order.

OTHER FOODS:—

				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Apples	...	...	340 Tins	—	18	0	24
Piping Jelly	...	...	3 „	—	—	—	21
Boiled Ham	...	...	68 „	—	6	3	10
Meat	...	...	200 „	—	1	2	25
Milk and Cream	...	...	361 „	—	3	0	25
Peas, Beans & Carrots	...	...	261 „	—	2	0	13
Soups	...	...	92 „	—	—	3	5
Tomatoes	...	...	90 „	—	—	2	12
Fish	...	...	229 „	—	1	2	20
Jam and Marmalade	...	...	15 „	—	—	1	0
Fruit	...	...	282 „ & bottles	—	3	2	26
Butter	...	...	...	—	3	2	0
Sweetened Fat	...	...	...	—	—	2	0
Dried Peas	...	...	...	—	5	1	12

Bacon	—	—	—	20
Pressed Pork	—	—	—	13
Frozen Egg	—	—	1	16
Almonds in shell	—	—	3	0
Rabbits	—	1	0	8
Wet Fish	—	—	1	14
Miscellaneous	—	—	3	3
Total	2	12	1	15

There are on the Registers of the Department :—

Butchers' Shops ... ..	...	...	...	36
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	...	...	...	19
Cooked Meat Shops ... ..	...	...	...	25
Bakehouses ... ..	...	...	...	36
Licensed Private Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	4

ADULTERATION OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The Local Authority became a Food and Drugs Authority as from October 1st, 1939, and the following samples were purchased during 1951.—

FORMAL :—

Milk ... ..	...	...	...	60
* Milk "Appeal to Cow." ... ..	...	...	...	8
Mixed Spice ... ..	...	...	...	3
Cream ... ..	...	...	...	2
Beef Sausage ... ..	...	...	...	1

INFORMAL :—

Beef Sausage ... ..	...	...	...	12
Christmas Puddings ... ..	...	...	...	8
Mixed Spice ... ..	...	...	...	7
Ice Cream ... ..	...	...	...	5
Mincemeat ... ..	...	...	...	5
Glace Cherries ... ..	...	...	...	4
Coffee ... ..	...	...	...	2
Cut Mixed Peel ... ..	...	...	...	2
Ground Almonds ... ..	...	...	...	2
Pepper ... ..	...	...	...	2
Candied Peel ... ..	...	...	...	1
Table Jelly ... ..	...	...	...	1

Total 125

* "Appeal to cow" samples are taken at the time of milking at farms from which milk has previously been sampled in course of transit to the consumer and found below standard.

ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

Article.	Formal or Informal.	Nature of Adulteration.	Observations.
Mixed Spice	Informal	Contained excessive amounts of lead and copper. Lead = 11 p.p.m. Copper = 80 p.p.m.	Formal Sample taken.
Mixed Spice	Informal	Contained an excessive amount of lead. Lead = 21 p.p.m.	Formal Sample taken.
Mixed Spice	Informal	Contained an excessive amount of Lead. Lead = 20 p.p.m.	Formal Sample taken.
Ice Cream	Informal	6½% deficient of non fatty milk solids.	Vendor cautioned.
Ice Cream	Informal	12% deficient of non fatty milk solids.	Vendor cautioned.
Ice Cream	Informal	6½% deficient of non fatty milk solids.	Vendor cautioned.
Beef Sausage	Informal	26% deficient of meat.	Vendor cautioned. Formal Sample taken and found to be genuine.
Beef Sausage	Informal	5% deficient of meat.	Vendor cautioned.
Christmas Pudding	Informal	11% deficient of fat.	Manufacturer cautioned.
Christmas Pudding	Informal	4% deficient of fat.	Manufacturer cautioned.
Glaze Cherries	Informal	Musty stale flavour. Old Stock.	Vendor cautioned.
Mixed Spice	Formal	Contained an excessive amount of lead. Lead = 26 p.p.m.	Legal Proceedings to be taken under Section 3 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938. Mixed spice should not contain more than 10 p.p.m of lead.
Mixed Spice	Formal	Contained an excessive amount of lead. Lead = 24 p.p.m.	
Mixed Spice	Formal	Contained an excessive amount of Lead. Lead = 24 p.p.m.	

Milk	Formal	Deficient of 6 $\frac{3}{8}$ % milk fat.	} Further Samples taken. Vendors cautioned.
Milk	Formal	Deficient of 6 $\frac{3}{8}$ % milk fat.	
Milk	Formal	15% deficient of fat.	Sample taken from the cows found to be deficient of fat.
Milk	Formal	4.5% deficient of milk solids. Contained 8.5% extraneous water.	Prosecuted
Milk	Formal	15% deficient of fat.	Further Samples taken. Vendor cautioned.

Of the samples taken, 15.2% were found to be adulterated.

PROCEEDINGS INSTITUTED UNDER FOOD
AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Article.	Default or Offence.	Result.	Fines.	Costs.
Mixed Spice ...	Contained 26 p.p.m. lead	Conviction against vendor	10 0 £1 9 0	
Mixed Spice ...	Contained 24 p.p.m. lead	Conviction against manufacturer	£3 0 0 £5 12 0	
Mixed Spice ...	Contained 24 p.p.m. lead	Vendor cautioned		
Milk ...	4.5% deficient of milk solids. Contained 8.5% extraneous water	Conviction	16 0 £2 14 0	

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